



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## January 2016 Newsletter

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### Upcoming Meeting:

February 12, 2016: Dave Arland will give a presentation on the up and coming trends from the Consumer Electronics Show. *(This meeting, along with all club meetings until June, will be at IVY Tech, building NMC, 50 West Fall Creek Parkway, North Drive, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Auditorium.)*

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### Highlights from the January Meeting:

Called to order at 7:33 by club president, Dave Spoelstra, N9KT. There were around 50 in attendance at the meeting. Adam, KD9FEB, was recognized as a new ham, getting his license just before the end of the year.

Dave announced that the bus to the Dayton Hamvention has been reserved. The day trip will be on Saturday, May 21, with tickets for the bus running \$30 per person (same as last year). Tickets are on sale now. Note that the bus ticket does not include admission to the show. Hamvention tickets are on sale now via their web site at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>

The Children's Museum is looking for some help making an International Space Station contact. Contact Dan Meier, KB9AX, if you can help.

It was announced that past president of the Indianapolis Radio Club (2001-2003), and long time area Ham, Bill Goodall, K9DBY, passed away on January 3.

Mike, WA9NCF, said Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB, got hit in the head with a hockey puck at a hockey game earlier in the week. However, he was back at a hockey game tonight. Wayne Fox, KE9P, announced that on January 27 the Hendricks County radio classes

will start, running every Wednesday night for 9 or 10 weeks. Wayne also reminded that the Brownsburg hamfest is February 13.

Dave next introduced Rich Meiss, WB9LPU, to talk about keys. The title of Rich's talk was "Re-engineering the venerable bug". Dave showed and explained several of the bugs he has designed and manufactured over the years, as well as a history of the bug.

Next month's meeting speaker will be Dave Arland, with his always interesting talk about the CES (Consumer Electronics Show).

Door prizes and adjournment at 8:45

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **HELP NEEDED FOR UPCOMING EVENTS**

Ham Radio Volunteers are needed in all the public served events that we support. These are:

May 7 - 500 Festival Mini Marathon  
May 28 - 500 Festival Parade  
Jun 4 - American Diabetes Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride  
Aug 1 - Indy Air Race  
Sep 10 - Multiple Sclerosis Bike Ride  
Oct 1 - Indianapolis Marathon in Lawrence  
Nov 7 - Indianapolis Monumental Marathon

Contact is Mike Palmer, N9FEB ---- N9FEB@comcast.net

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB  
Marion County IN Events Coordinator for Ham Radio  
7461 Hague Rd., Indpls, IN 46256  
(317) 849-3602 home  
(317) 753-8691 cell  
[www.IndyHams.org](http://www.IndyHams.org)

### **THE SAGA OF TEN-TEC OWNERSHIP CONTINUES**

*The following is from the new owner of TEN-TEC:*

As some of you may be aware, Dishtronix has purchased the assets (but not the liabilities) of Ten Tec from RKR Designs. . I had desired to keep this under wraps until Ten Tec is reorganized, but there is too much speculation concerning the service department to continue without an announcement of some sort.

There is a myriad of things that must be accomplished before everything is formalized. Unfortunately these things must be done before we can continue with jobs that were sent in for repair to RKR. At this time I would ask people to be patient and please do not call or email me about your repair. When we get the phone numbers transferred successfully or new phone numbers we will post them. As we progress with the change, someone will contact you about your repair. When service resumes we will be contacting the repair customers.

As some of you may be aware I have been looking at all aspects of operation of the company and restructuring operations has been necessary. In reviewing the service department accounts, it is apparent that some customers use the service department to diagnose the radio and elect to not proceed with the repair. Unfortunately this open door policy costs the company one hour of billable time to receive, unpack, open, diagnose, provide an estimate and repack a radio for return to the customer.

Effective immediately, all radios including those sent in to RKR, will incur a 140.00 minimum charge to look at a radio, even if it is not repaired. Service time is 125 per hour with the average repair requiring from one to two hours. This means you can expect to pay at least 265.00 plus parts and return shipping for any repair.

For customers who sent radios in to RKR which were not repaired, who object to these terms, we will return your unit to you at your expense.

A second problem in the service department is with the time technicians spend on the telephone that quite often ends up having nothing to do with the Ten Tec product but is some other station deficiency. The problem here is Ten Tec is not compensated for that time, yet Ten Tec pays wages to the technician. When the service department resumes operation, Ten Tec will charge the customer for any telephone call or email that consumes more than five minutes of technician time. That time will be billed in quarter hour increments at the prevailing service rate.

I am fully committed to bring Ten Tec back to a sustainable state. This will take some time. Please give us time to finalize these plans since there are so many business related issues to get through. We will definitely need to rely on you as customers to help continue the Ten Tec tradition of innovative product and cutting edge technology.

The Ten Tec team is working on production improvements to our facility and business. We are fully occupied with our commercial business at this time. When I have capacity the next step is to run the first batch of Omni 7+ which is the Omni 7 with some minor cosmetic changes and improvements such as a flat metal front for improved shielding. Following this we are releasing the Super Eagle which brings into the Eagle most of the DSP features found on the Orion II and is the first step on the path to the Orion III. This is different hardware from existing product so it is not a firmware upgrade. There are no firm dates or guarantees for when these things will occur.

There has been some speculation if Ten Tec will move to Ohio. I do not plan to move anything at this time from the Sevierville – Knoxville area, but we may move within that area.

More information can be found at <http://qrznow.com/ten-tec-announcement-january-4-2016/>

## **HENDRICKS COUNTY CLASSES COMING UP**

The annual amateur radio licensing classes in Danville will be starting on January 27, and running every Wednesday from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Contact Jay Wright, KK9L, for more information.

## **2015 WAS THE INDIANA RADIO CLUB COUNCIL'S LAST YEAR**

*As received from Jim Rinehart, K9RU:*

The IRCC was founded in 1947, organizing clubs in Indiana to get support to have the legislature pass a bill to authorize amateur radio call letter license plates. And, after many years of hard work it was passed and in 1954 Indiana began issuing call letter license plates.

Over the years the IRCC has monitored legislature bills that would impact ham radio. One of the reoccurring themes were bills to limit having radio in mobiles that could cover police frequencies, the scanner law, radar detector laws and using a radio while in motion.

Last fall several of the officers had to resign for either person or health reasons. This left the IRCC with too many vacancies to fill. They were looking for people that want to work building the IRCC and did not want to just draft people to fill the positions. After much discussion and reviewing the goals and accomplishments of the IRCC, it was decided that the IRCC would be terminated at the end of 2015.

## **ANOTHER AREA SYSTEM FUSION REPEATER ON THE AIR**

*From the W9RCA club newsletter:*

The new repeater has been on 146.88 for several weeks. There was initially a problem getting it to repeat C4FM digital signals which turned out to be a wiring error between the new repeater and our old system. We're still using the voting system and the old controller controls the new repeater when in the FM mode giving the same functionality as we've had in the past. Keep in mind, 88.5 Hz CTCSS is REQUIRED in FM mode. The repeater web page has been updated: <http://www.w9rca.org/repeater.html>

## **SWODXA DXDINNER® ANNOUNCEMENT**

Bill Salyers – AJ8B <[AJ8B@arrl.net](mailto:AJ8B@arrl.net)>

The SouthWest Ohio DX Association (SWODXA) is pleased to announce that we will again sponsor the DX Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2016 Dayton Hamvention®. This, our 31st annual dinner, will be on Friday, May 20th, 2016, at the Dayton Marriott, 1414 S. Patterson Blvd., Dayton, OH 45409.

Among other great prizes, Yaesu has generously donated an FT DX-3000 to the DX Dinner and an FT DX1200 to the DX forum!

There will be a cash bar starting at 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00. Following the meal, there will be a separate room and cash bar available for more fellowship. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new hams and to renew old acquaintances as well as to learn about past DXpeditions and those in the planning stages. Bring your QSL cards to place on our QSL board!

## **HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE**

I have a new 3 500 tube that I would like to sell. I paid \$190 for it and I would be pleased to receive \$115 for it. I also have an unused MFJ Artificial Ground. I would like to receive around \$80 for the unit. (Prices reduced).

Newly listed item: Yaesu FRG 7 General Coverage Receiver, In excellent Condition.  
\$175.00

Thanks, David Wilhelmus, WA9OUX

Contact : [wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com](mailto:wilhelmusdavid@gmail.com)

Phone: 317 926-2358

## MORE HAM RADIO GEAR FOR SALE

Bird 43 Wattmeter w/ 100-250mc 100w slug and HF 2-30 Mc 250W slug.  
Asking \$175.00.

Kenwood TM-G707 VHF/UHF mobile/base rig. 50W/10W/5W VHF and 35W/10W/5W UHF.  
Asking \$150.00.

Astron RS-20A 13.8V DC Supply 20A Peak, 15A Avg.  
Asking \$50.00

Contact w0lpq9@msn.com or 439-9421.

Bill Lambing, W0LPQ  
Greenwood

## FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

**From the January, 1966 *Amachewer*:**

November 12 (meeting):

Hank Wolfla, K9LZJ, gave the club an interesting demonstration on the fascinating properties of microwaves. Using equipment borrowed from Purdue University, he glowingly described its cost in gigadollars, then showed us it works too. With it he was able to transmit a signal halfway across the meeting room, bounce it off a piece of metal, shut it off completely by putting his hand in front of the beam, and in general let it be known that these electrons are might tricky critters.

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### **Upcoming Area Radio Events:**

- February 13: Brownsburg Hamfest American Legion Post 331 <http://www.hcars.org/hamfest>
- March 12: Terre Haute Hamfest and Computer Show at Clay County 4-H Fairgrounds <http://w9uuu.org/hamfest.html>
- May 20 – 22: Dayton Hamvention <http://hamvention.org/>

### **2016 Officers:**

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – EMAIL [n9kt@arrl.net](mailto:n9kt@arrl.net)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - ..EMAIL [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - ..EMAIL [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - ..EMAIL [ws9h.indy@gmail.com](mailto:ws9h.indy@gmail.com)
- Chief Operator: Tom Chance, K9XV - ..EMAIL [k9xv@arrl.net](mailto:k9xv@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – EMAIL [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jerry Skoll, KC9DTB - ..EMAIL [g-17sk7.2@outlook.com](mailto:g-17sk7.2@outlook.com)
- Dir. at large: Bob Osterhous - ..EMAIL [rosterhous@iquest.net](mailto:rosterhous@iquest.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Don Hemenover, N9DOO – EMAIL [don9doo@indy.rr.com](mailto:don9doo@indy.rr.com)